

Setting a uniform limit on the population of a county election precinct

HB 1701 by Taylor (Jackson)

DIGEST:	HB 1701 would have required that a county election precinct contain at least 100 but not more than 5,000 registered voters. It would have repealed the maximum number of registered voters a precinct may contain based on the population of the county.
GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:	<p>“House Bill No. 1701 would allow counties to combine election precincts, which would make them much larger and would limit the number of polling places. As a result, the bill would move many voters’ polling places further from their homes. The bill would allow some precincts which are currently capped at 2,000 voters to grow to 5,000 voters, making people leave their neighborhoods to vote and increasing lines at polling places.</p> <p>“We should work to allow people to vote in their neighborhoods and to make it easier, not harder, for Texans to vote on Election Day.”</p>
RESPONSE:	Rep. Larry Taylor, the bill’s author, had no comment on the veto. Sen. Mike Jackson, the Senate sponsor, was unavailable for comment.
NOTES:	HB 1701 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a <i>Daily Floor Report</i> .